



FAMILY READINESS NEWS

JUNE 2012



Military Pass for Free Access to National Parks and Other Public Lands

America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Annual Pass, which normally costs \$80 - will become available to service members and their dependents on Armed Forces Day, May 19.

The passes allow the holder and passengers in a single private vehicle access to some 2,000 sites that charge per vehicle. At sites where entrance fees are charged per person, it covers the pass owner and three adults age 16 and older.

The free pass will be made available for activated members of the National Guard and reserves, but not for military veterans or retirees.



Related Sites:

National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/>



To find a local Park in your area and obtain a pass please visit:

<http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm>

AND

<http://store.usgs.gov/pass/PassIssuanceList.pdf>

Month of the Military Child Bowling Event!



Chadwick Lake Run!



L.I.N.K.S. is coming to Newburgh for you!

(What is L.I.N.K.S.?)



L.I.N.K.S. is a Marine Corps program that offers an informal approach to learning more about Marine Corps lifestyle, helping understand and adapt to the unique challenges military life often presents.

Topics covered include:

Lifestyle Insights Networking Knowledge Skills

- *History, traditions, cultures of the Marine Corps we are a part of.
- *Making the most of military pay & what to do with the leftovers?
- *Benefits and services available to you-It's amazing what is out there!
- *Effective communication personally and professionally.
- *Separation & Deployment-What's the deal when your Marine goes?
- *Career options and opportunities you might not know about.
- *Accepting where the Marine Corps sends you and getting involved.

And so much more! You don't know what you don't know...

Come discover what you may have been missing out on.

L.I.N.K.S. for Spouses/Parents/Families

Saturday, 16 June 2012

at the Stewart Terrace Community Center, 46 Sluga Dr, New Windsor
9:00am-4:00pm. Food and drinks will be provided. Please join us!

Open to all Marine families

RSVP Pat Graziano at 845-563-1946, 845-541-7445

or grazianopk@usmc-mccs.org

Shelly Aiken at 845-563-2907, 845-541-3024

or shelly.aiken@usmc.mil



Be proud of your Marine Corps connection.
WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

Brought to you by Marine Corps Family Team Building, MCCS, Marine Forces Reserve

MILITARY CHILD CARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

*is an initiative to locate and help pay
for child care when on-base child care
programs are not available or accessible.*



Thousands of Active Duty, Guard and Reserve Service Members in all branches of the military have been activated or deployed. The remaining spouse or other family members suddenly assume responsibility for all family needs. In many instances, child care becomes a major issue from both a cost and availability standpoint.

To support these families and their child care requirements, the Department of Defense (DoD), the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps established partnerships with NACCRRRA which:

- Require NACCRRRA to find child care in civilian communities nationwide for Active Duty, Guard and Reserve Military Families living away from installations or unable to access military child care due to non-availability. All providers must be state licensed and receive an annual inspection to participate in any of the child care programs. NACCRRRA manages and provides fee assistance to participating child care providers.

Military Families from all service branches may be eligible for the following programs:

- Operation Military Child Care (OMCC) supports the needs of deployed military personnel. Under OMCC, NACCRRRA provides child care referrals and fee assistance is paid for child care spaces nationwide.
- Military Child Care in your Neighborhood (MCCYN) provides long-term, quality child care spaces. Under MCCYN, child care fee assistance is paid for accredited care for children of geographically dispersed Active Duty Service Members.
- Wounded, Ill, or Severely Injured, provides child care spaces in support of Active Duty Service Members who have been injured and are receiving in-patient or out-patient medical care for extended periods. For the Army, Soldiers must be assigned to a Warriors in Transition Battalion or Unit to receive care.
- Survivors of Fallen Warriors provides child care fee assistance to families of military members who passed away on Active Duty on or after September 11, 2011.

**Operation: ★★★★★★
Military Child Care**

Operation: Military Child Care
is a Department of Defense (DoD) initiative to support
the child care needs of parents who are **activated/deployed**.



National Association of Child Care
Resource & Referral Agencies

1515 N. Courthouse Road,
11th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Phone (703) 341-4100
Fax (703) 341-4101

www.naccrrra.org

**TO RECEIVE THE FEE ASSISTANCE FOR CHILD
CARE PLEASE SEE YOUR FAMILY READINESS
OFFICER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS!**

Shelly Aiken
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Shelly.aiken@usmc.mil
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Patricia K. Graziano
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Semper Fi Parents of Hudson Valley, NY

present

A Hero Softball Tournament

Army, Marines, Air Force, and Navy teams

Saturday, September 15, 2012

Dutchess Stadium, Beacon NY

Games start at 11:00 a.m.

COME OUT
and Support out
MARINES!!!

All tickets \$10.00, general admission, kids under 5 free



*For the Freedoms
that we all enjoy...
Our Thanks go to the
young men and women
serving in all
branches of the military.*

**Sponsorships from \$50 to \$1000 are available.
Help offset the cost of mailing care packages,
support military families in need and support
the wounded warrior programs.**

For further questions, call 914-474-2295 or 845-214-8422

Semper Fi Parents of Hudson Valley,

A registered 501C3 charity

www.semperfiparentshv.org

Quote for the Quarter



"You miss 100% of the shots
you don't take."

- Wayne Gretzky

SUMMER 2012 NEW ENGLAND

July 2012

- 11 Love Thinks- How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk*
- 18 Love Thinks- How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk*
- 27-29 Marriage Enrichment Retreat, Southbridge, MA

August 2012

- 1 Love Thinks- How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk*
- 15 Love Thinks- How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk*
- 24-26 Marriage Enrichment Retreat, Southbridge, MA

September 2012

- 5 Love Thinks- How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk*
- 14-16 Men's Retreat, Exeter RI
- 19 Love Thinks- How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk*

- Myers-Briggs Type Inventory (MBTI) and Team Building Training as requested.

* This is a full day relationship workshop held
at the CREDO Northeast Office.

All Retreats and workshops are FREE (including meals), and are open
to **Active Duty, Reservists** and their **Dependents**.

For more information or to register please call:

CREDO Northeast, 860- 694-1144
We are located at Bldg 84, Room 103



Credo Northeast

OPERATION SHOWER



Operation Shower is about celebrating and honoring military families. Operation Shower is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides joyful baby showers for military families to ease the burden of deployment.

For more information please visit:
www.operationshower.org

MILITARY OUTREACH AND RESPITE CHILD CARE

Deployment can be a stressful and uncertain time for our nation's servicemen and women and their families. In partnership with the Armed Services YMCA and the Department of Defense, the Y is proud to offer memberships and respite child care services to eligible military families and personnel to give them extra support during this difficult period. It's our way of giving back to those who dedicate themselves to serving our country

For membership and more information please log onto: <http://www.ymca.net/military-outreach/>



**Free Video Mail for military
and their families.**

**Communicate Now
Remember Forever!**

**A Free Communication Service
for our Armed Forces
SIGN UP ITS FREE!!!**

www.trooptree.com



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Jefferson County



**NEW YORK STATE
Operation: Military Kids
SPEAK OUT FOR
MILITARY KIDS
Youth Weekend Retreat**



OMK is looking for 20 teens that would like to spend a weekend with other teens from Western New York to create a Public Service Announcement that will be used to educate communities across NY regarding the unique experiences military youth face due to deployment of a family member. Youth will enhance their technology, leadership, communication, and teambuilding skills throughout the weekend, form new friendships and be a vital asset to their community!

WHEN: June 8-10, 2012

(5PM Friday—1PM Sunday)

WHERE: 4-H Camp Wyomoco
(2780 Buffalo Road, Varysburg, NY)

WHO: Youth ages 13-17
(military and non-military welcome)

COST: FREE

SPACE LIMITED TO 20 YOUTH, REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

For more information or to register your youth for this weekend please email Barbara Kessler at omk-ny@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Please contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County office if you have special needs or are unable to pay.

Operation: Military Kids is a partnership of Army Child, Youth & School Services, 4-H National Headquarters, USDA, and Cornell University. Operation: Military Kids—New York is supported by the 4-H Army Youth Development Project under Kansas State University special project number 2009-4061-03065.



2012-2013
MILITARY TEEN
 Adventure Camps

They will even help with transportation cost's to camp!!!



https://www.extension.purdue.edu/Adventure_camps/campshome.html

*Don't miss out on weeks of
 summer fun for your child!*

**Child, Youth &
 School Services
 2012 Summer Camp**

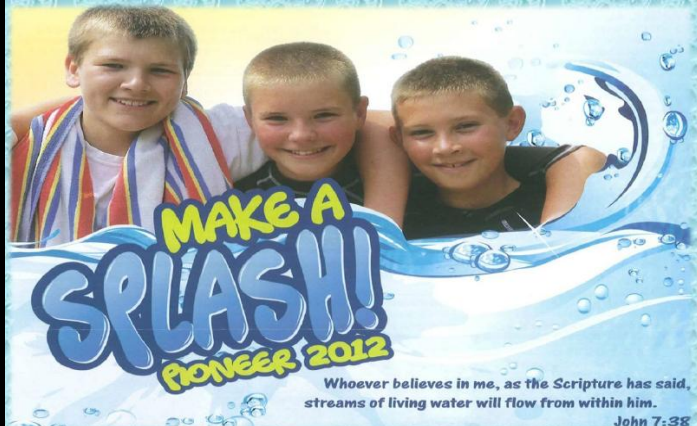
**Weekly Sessions June 11 - August 31
 6am-5:30pm**

**Call (845) 938-4458/0939
westpointmwr.com**

- Weekly Themes
- Outdoor Adventures
- Field Trips
- Swimming
- Arts & Crafts
- Boys & Girls Club and 4-H events
- Sports & Fitness



U.S. Army Child, Youth
 & School Services



Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said,
 streams of living water will flow from within him.
 John 7:38

Military Kids Camp
July 8th - 13th

Is a week specifically for youth and teens who have a parent serving in our Armed Forces. This time includes all the greatest parts of our youth and teen programs with the addition of military themed activities like helicopter landings and MRE's. Special Registration Documents are needed. For more information please contact our office at (716)549-1420.

SPACES ARE LIMITED!

9324 Lake Shore Road Angola, NY
info.pioneercamp.org



FREE



**OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMP
 FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY & BASE PERSONNEL
 AGES 8-14 AT KAMP KIWANIS IN TABERG, NY**

Week 1 July 8-July 14

Week 2 July 15-July 21

Week 3 July 22-July 28

Week 4 July 29-August 4



Kamp Kiwanis is located in upstate New York and provides a wide range of fun and safe activities for children. The NY District Kiwanis Foundation wish to provide this opportunity for your children to honor those people who are in the military or those who work at our military bases. Our highly trained staff are a mix of local and international college age young adults. Our staff ratios are well above those set by American Camp Association standards, providing a safe and supportive atmosphere for your children. We also serve children with a variety of special needs and camp is ADA compliant. This experience is provided to you, free of charge in the summer of 2012.



For more information, contact:
 Kamp Kiwanis
 315-336-4568
 9030 Kiwanis Road
 Taberg, NY 13471

This program is the New York District Kiwanis Foundation, Inc. Kamp Kiwanis is licensed by the Onondaga County Department of Health, is inspected by the Office for Persons with Developmental Disabilities and is accredited by the American Camp Association.
www.kampkiwanis.org 315-336-4568 kampkiwanis@hotmail.com

FMWR Fitness Center presents the... **FLAG DAY 5K**



Saturday, June 16th

**Registration at 7am
Shotgun start at 8am**



- ◆ Start and finish race at the West Point Commissary.
- ◆ Pre-registration begins at the FMWR Fitness Center on May 16th.
- ◆ First 90 pre-registered runners receive a free T-shirt (Limited sizes will be available day of the race).
- ◆ Cost of race is one FMWR Fitness Center coupon or \$4. Cadets are free but must register.
- ◆ Strollers and leashed dogs welcome.



For more info, call 938-6490

westpointmwr.com

Walt Disney World Resort



BUY YOUR MILITARY PROMOTIONAL TICKETS NOW! 4 Theme Parks...4 Days...4 Only \$138*!

As a special salute to our men and women in uniform, Walt Disney World Resort is offering all military personnel 4 days of admission to all 4 of our Theme Parks at one very special price. That's a savings of 52% off our ticket window price with the ability to visit more than one Theme Park per day.

Buy your 4-Day Military Promotional Ticket
with Park Hopper® Option today at your Base Ticket Office!

<http://www.westpointmwr.com/ACTIVITY/LTS/index.htm>

SATURDAYS @ 7PM WEEKEND GETAWAY LEAGUE!

IS THIS LEAGUE FOR YOU???



ARE YOU A FIRST TIME LEAGUE BOWLER?
DRINKING BOWLER?
JUST FOR FUN BOWLER?



THEN YES! THIS LEAGUE IS FOR YOU

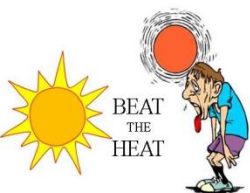
WHO: 3 PERSON TEAMS, YOU AND 2 OTHER PALS

WHAT: 3 GAME FUN LEAGUE, \$12 A WEEK EACH

WHERE: PAT TARSIO LANES

WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND @ 7PM UNTIL AUGUST 4TH

WHY: BOWLING IS ONE OF THE MOST AFFORDABLE FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT IN THE AREA. WHAT BETTER WAY TO BEAT THE HEAT THEN JOIN US IN OUR AIR CONDITIONED FACILITY WITH A FULL BAR WITH THE BEST PRICES IN TOWN!



**INTERESTED IN BOWLING OR WOULD
LIKE MORE INFO? PLEASE LEAVE
YOUR NAME AND NUMBER BELOW:**

Orange County Tourism

Weekend Event Highlights

Ongoing Mekong Journal

Photographs of the fascinating river culture of the Mekong Delta. Wed-Sun, 11am - 5pm. Exposures Gallery, Sugar Loaf. 845-469-9382, www.exposures.com

Sundays through October

Tour a Working Dairy Farm
The celebrated dairy barn built in 1900 is open to the public for a tour of a working dairy farm. Call for reservations. 12:30-1:30pm. Bellvale Farms, Warwick. 845-988-5414, www.bellvalefarms.com

June 1 & 2 - Friday & Saturday Activities by Half!

Go-karts, mini golf, laser tag, free fall, rock wall, laser maze and arcade games are half price this weekend between 10am and noon. The Castle Fun Center, Chester. 845-469-2116, www.thecastlefuncenter.com

June 2 - Saturday Yoga at Storm King

An hour of outdoor yoga in the morning light amid the spectacular sculpture. Bring your own mat. 10:15am. Storm King Art Center, Mountainville. 845-534-3115, www.stormkingartcenter.org

June 2 - Saturday RiverFest

Full day of entertainment including children's activities, live music, large craft and food fair. The West Point Steel Band performs at 2pm. Shuttle buses from parking area. 11am-6pm. Donohue Park, Cornwall-on-Hudson. 845-534-4200, www.river-fest.com

June 2 - Saturday Jazz in June

Featuring Todd Williams and His Red Hot Stompers. Swing back to early New Orleans with tunes by Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong and Sidney Bechet. 6pm. The Tuxedo Club, Tuxedo Park. 845-351-3473, www.tuxedoperformingarts.org

June 2 - Saturday

WAITING FOR MACARTHUR

A spiritually uplifting, emotionally touching war story. All the more intense because it is told by women. 7PM. Goshen Music Hall, Goshen. Reservations required. 845-294-4188, www.cornertoneartsalliance.wordpress.com

June 2 & 3 - Saturday & Sunday Classic 10K

Junior Classic races for kids on Saturday, 10K on Sunday with great food, live music, and world class athletes. Middletown High School, Middletown. 845-692-9925, www.classic10K.com

For more events this weekend and beyond visit
www.OrangeTourism.org

Spotlight On:

H.M.S. Bounty

The Tall Ship HMS Bounty arrives on Thursday, May 31 at the Newburgh Waterfront. Friday through Monday, tour the replica of one of the most famous ships in the world, known for the storied mutiny that took place in Tahiti in 1789. Call for times, 845-541-6575. Downing Film Center in Newburgh, within walking distance of the ship, is showing "Mutiny on the Bounty," the classic film all weekend.

845-561-3686

www.downingfilmcenter.com



H.M.S. Bounty - Photo courtesy of HMS Bounty Organization, LLC



2012 Saban Military Wife Educational Scholarship

APPLY NOW!

Scholarships will be
awarded July 15, 2012

Provided by



Apply Now for the 2012 Saban
Military Wife Educational
Scholarship!

Operation Homefront and the
Women's Self Worth Foundation are
proud to

announce the 2012 Saban Military
Wife Educational Scholarship.

The scholarship is offered to wives of
uniformed service members to attend
vocational training programs in the
medical field. Applications will be
accepted from April 1 - June 1, 2012
and must be postmarked by June 1,
2012.

The Scholarships will be awarded to
recipients on July 15, 2012.

For complete details including
eligibility, the selection process and a
downloadable application, please visit:
<http://www.operationhomefront.net/scholarship/>.

AAA Defensive Driving Class



U.S. AIR FORCE

- When: 13 June, Start 0800- 1400
- Where: Bldg 202 (Auditorium)
- Who: Any DoD Cardholder (Active, Traditional, Retired, Dependant.
- Why: AFI 91-207, 4.6. Driver Improvement and Rehabilitation Course. This training course is intended as a driver skill improvement and traffic offender rehabilitation course.
- How: Register with the 105th AW Safety Office via email: 105AW.SE.Safety@ang.af.mil or call 845-563-2232 Please provide Rank/Name/Organization/ Phone #

6-Hour Course Reduces Insurance Premiums & Points

AAA's Defensive Driving course provides drivers with tips and techniques on how to be safer drivers by reducing risk through proper management of visibility, time, and space, how to handle emergencies, and driver and passenger safety. Licensed drivers receive a certificate upon completion that can lower portions of their insurance premium by up to **10% for 3 years** as well as reduce up to **4 points** from their driving record for moving violations within the last 18 months.



THE VOW TO HIRE HEROES ACT OF 2011

NEW BENEFITS FOR UNEMPLOYED VETERANS

VETERANS MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL EDUCATION BENEFITS

The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) offers up to 12 months of retraining assistance to Veterans who meet all the following criteria:

- Unemployed
- At least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Have an other than dishonorable discharge
- Not eligible for any other VA education benefit programs (e.g., the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment)
- Not in receipt of VA compensation due to Individual Unemployability (IU)
- Not enrolled in a federal or state job training program

Veterans can apply for VRAP beginning on May 15, 2012, for programs that begin on or after July 1, 2012. Participating Veterans may receive up to 12 months of assistance equal to the full-time Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty rate, currently \$1,473 per month. Assistance under this benefit program ends on March 31, 2014.

Programs must meet the following criteria to qualify for VRAP benefits:

- Be offered by a community college or technical school
- Lead to an Associates Degree or Certificate
- Train the Veteran for a high demand occupation

UNEMPLOYED VETERANS WITH A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

To qualify, Veterans must:

- Have previously completed a VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program
- Apply within six months of exhausting initial claim for unemployment compensation
- Apply to VA by March 31, 2014

VA offers incentive payments to encourage employers to hire and train program participants.

- Veterans must apply and qualify for VA vocational rehabilitation benefits prior to being hired
- VA may reimburse up to one-half the Veterans annual salary for 6 months or longer
- Gives Veterans a competitive advantage with employers

****For more information on these great benefits and how to apply, please visit us online at www.benefits.va.gov/VOW or call toll free at 1-800-827-1000.**

Please continue to check www.va.gov for changes and updates to the VOW to Hire Hero Act programs and benefits. Last updated on 05/11/2012



U.S. Department
of Labor



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Exclusive Savings for Military and their Families!



Save \$5*
per ticket

Special Pricing: \$30 Adults

Regular Ticket Prices:

\$200 Breakfast with the Champions

\$125 Total Access Pass - \$50 VIP - \$35

\$15 Kids w/ purchase of \$35 Adult

Saturday June 16 @ 7:00 pm



East Rutherford, NJ

Pit Party

JUNE 16

1:00 pm- 5:00 pm

For all inquiries or to purchase tickets,
please contact Kathleen Garrett at

1.866.248.8740 ext. 102

Or email Kathleen at
KGarrett@FeldGroupSales.com

*Offer does not apply to Breakfast with the Champions, Total Access Pass, VIP or Kids seats. No Double Discounts. All tickets will have a \$3 facility fee.

Service charge and handling fee may apply. All sales final - no refunds or exchanges. This flyer is not a coupon and CANNOT be redeemed at the Box Office.

Trucks appearing are subject to change.

OFFER EXPIRES NOON WEDNESDAY JUNE 13.

FREE EVENT PUBLIC EVENT
For Veterans Family & MWR Access

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Concert and fireworks in honor of the troops and their families featuring...

ESTELLE

Fort Hamilton Army Base/ Sunday July 1st
Register today via the website!
www.hamiltonmwr.com

FREE EVENT PUBLIC EVENT
For Veterans Family & MWR Access

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Concert and fireworks in honor of the troops and their families featuring...

Eddie Money

Fort Hamilton Army Base/ Sunday July 1st
Register today via the website!
www.hamiltonmwr.com

EDUCATION & EVENTS

FAMILY READINESS GROUP MEETING-ALL INVITED!!!

JUNE 6th 2012-7PM-?

Stewart Community Center

L.I.N.K.S FOR MARINES YOU MUST RSVP WITH YOUR FRO!

JUNE 15th- 1-4pm

Stewart Air Guard Dinning Hall

Call Pat or Shelly to sign up!!!

L.I.N.K.S For Spouses, Parents, Families

JUNE 16th -9am-4pm

Stewart Community Center

Refreshments served!

RESUME Writing Secrets to Success

JUNE 4th-2pm

West Point-Bldg 622

Call for more information: 845-938-5658

Federal Resume Writing Workshop

JUNE 15th -1pm

West Point-Bldg 622

For more information please call: 845-938-5658

2012 Annual Veterans' Spring Picnic and Resource Fair

Saturday, June 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Thomas Bull Memorial (Orange County) Park
in the Day Camp Pavilion..** enjoy a free, family
picnic-style barbecue with hot dogs, hamburgers,
salads and cold drinks for all. Veterans, their
families and friends are all invited to attend. Please
come out and join us!

Family Readiness Office

Providing information and education for military
service members and their Families by sustaining
and maintaining Family readiness.

Stop in or contact anytime!

Shelly Aiken

VMGR-452

Shelly.aiken@usmc.mil

O# 845-563-2097

C# 845-541-3024

Patricia K. Graziano

MALS 49

Patricia.graziano@usmc.mil

O# 845-563-1946

C# 845-541-7445



USEFUL LINKS

Government Employees Vacation opportunities:

<http://www.gettravelop.com/>

New York State-Fishing, Hunting and MORE!!!

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/>

JOBS AND MORE!

www.militaryconnection.com

Financial education

www.MyMoney.gov

TURBO TAP

Your Connection to money, benefits and jobs.

<http://www.turbotap.org/register.tpp>

HELP FINDING A JOB

<http://www.employerpartnership.org/>

ORANGE COUNTY PARKS!!!

<http://www.orangecountynyparks.com/>

EDUCATION INFORMATION:

<http://militaryconnection.com/education.asp>

Community Calendar:

<http://www.pendellrd.com/community.htm>

Community and State Information:

<http://www.ready.gov/america/local/ny.html>

American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcross.org/>

Military OneSource: Education and Resources!

www.militaryonesource.com

National Suicide Prevention Hotline:

1-800-273-8255- www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Child Care Program:

www.Sittercity.com

TRICARE

<http://www.tricare.mil/tronorth/default.cfm>

New York Events:

<http://www.iloveny.com/>

Semper Fi Parents

(914) 474-2295

info@semperfiparentshv.org

<http://www.sempfiparentshv.org/index.htm>